



A SINGING RAG DOLL

A Singing Rag Doll

Story by *Chang Rui*
Illustrated by *Shang Shiyong*



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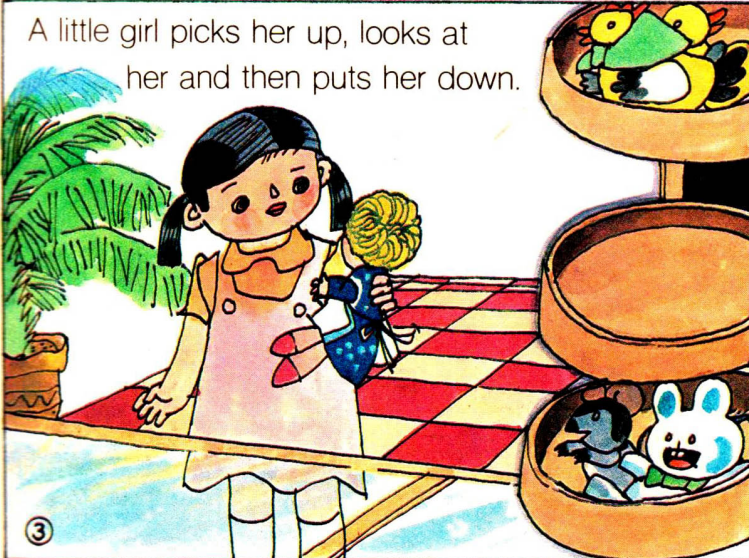


① Qiao Yi is a rag doll.



No one wants to buy her.

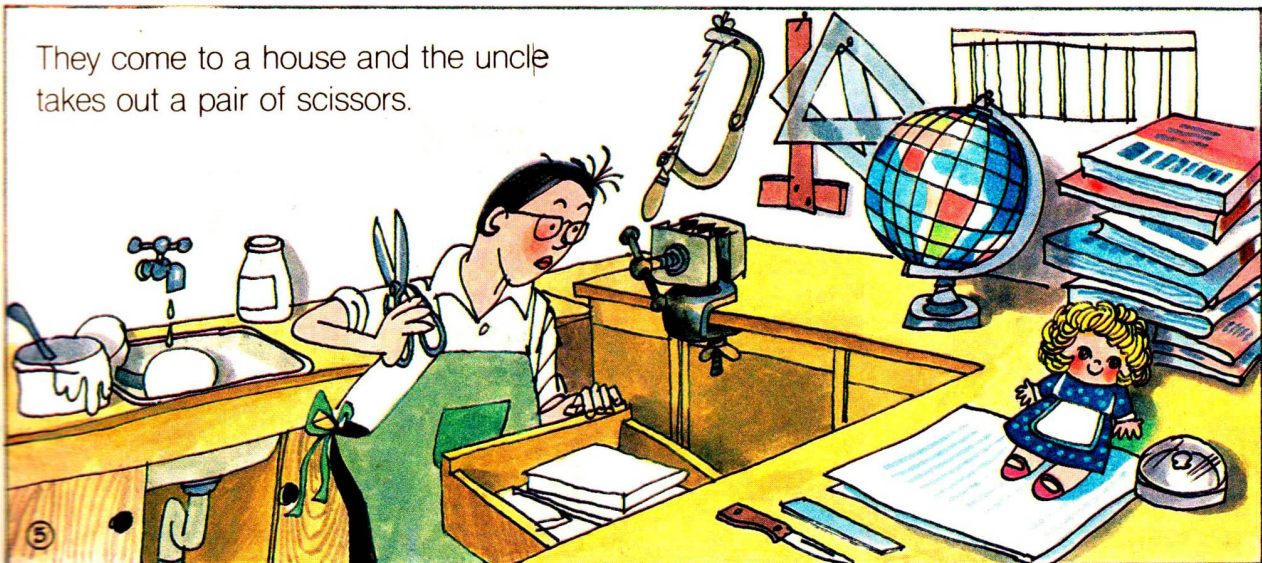
A little girl picks her up, looks at her and then puts her down.



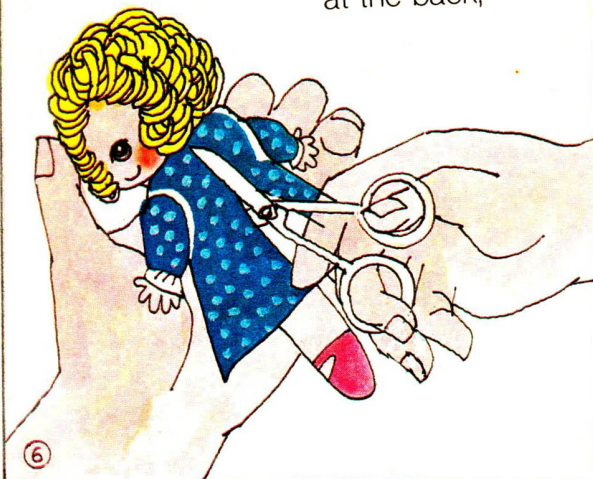
An uncle takes Qiao Yi away.



They come to a house and the uncle takes out a pair of scissors.



He cuts open Qiao Yi's clothes
at the back,



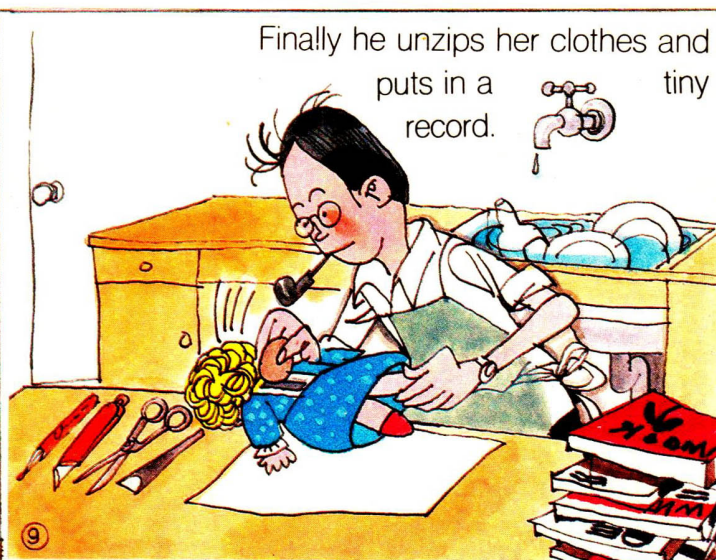
and puts a mini record
player in her,



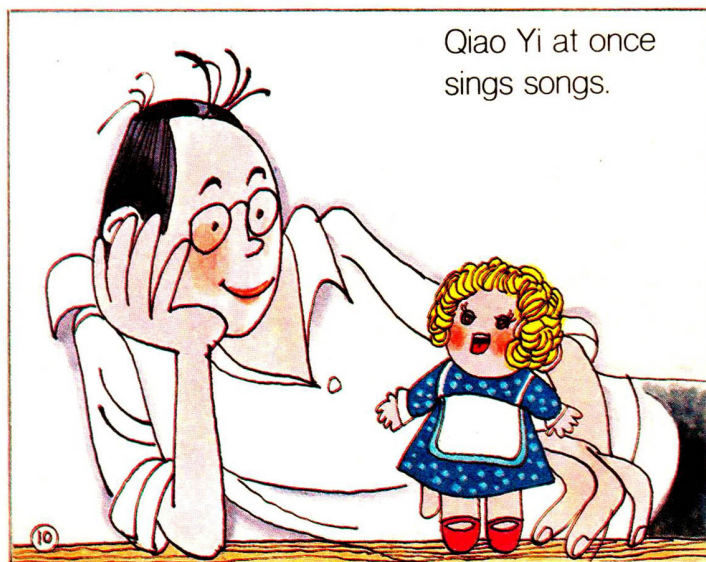
then fits a zipper to her clothes.



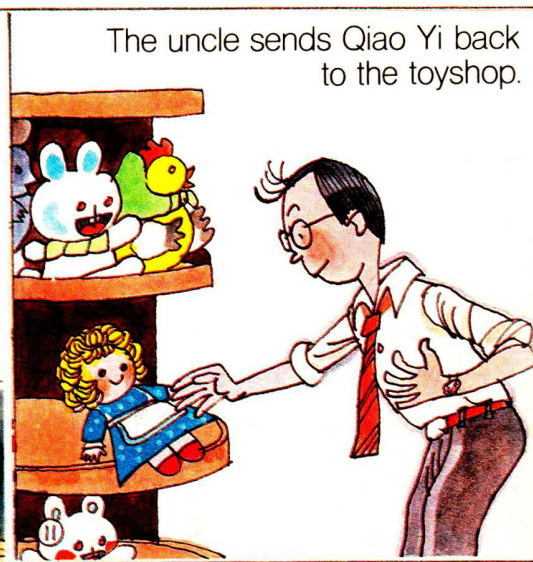
Finally he unzips her clothes and
puts in a tiny record.



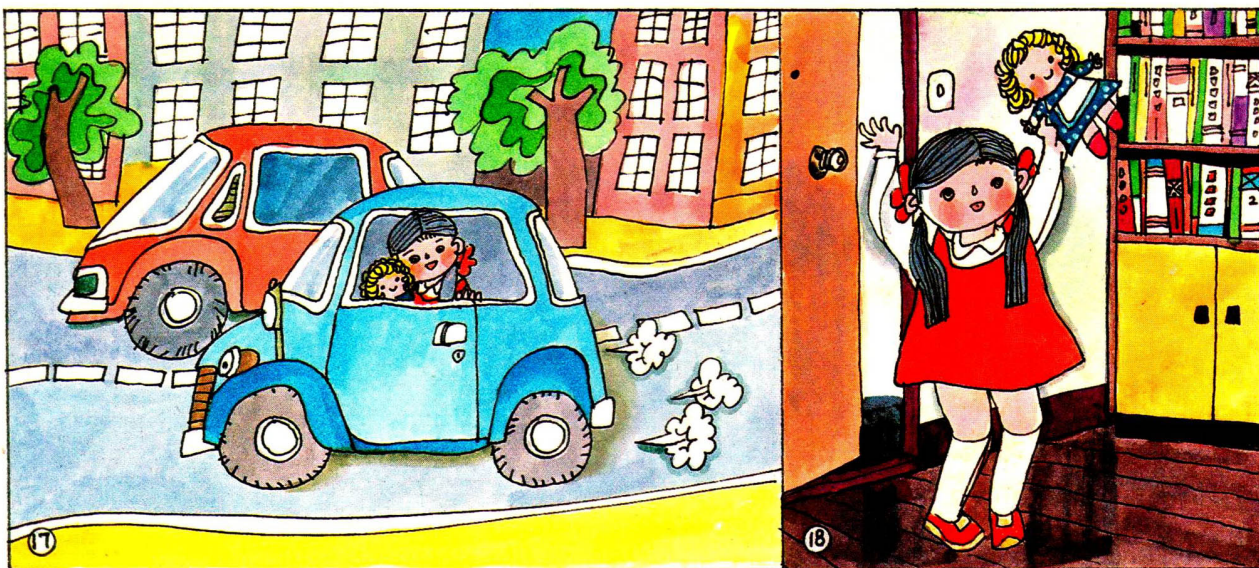
Qiao Yi at once
sings songs.



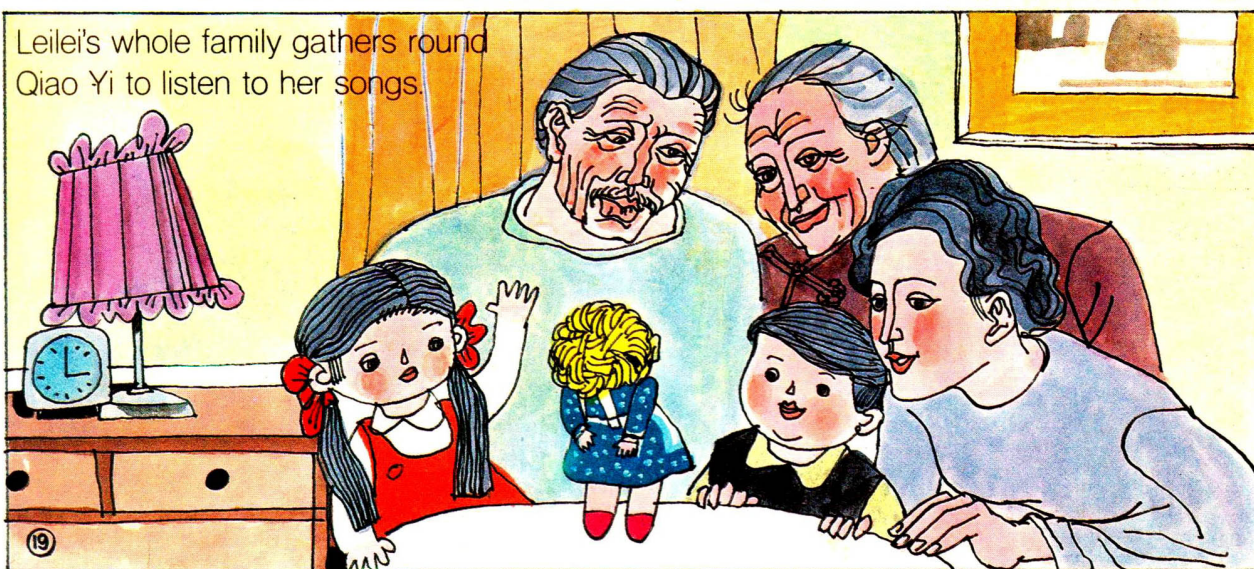
The uncle sends Qiao Yi back
to the toyshop.





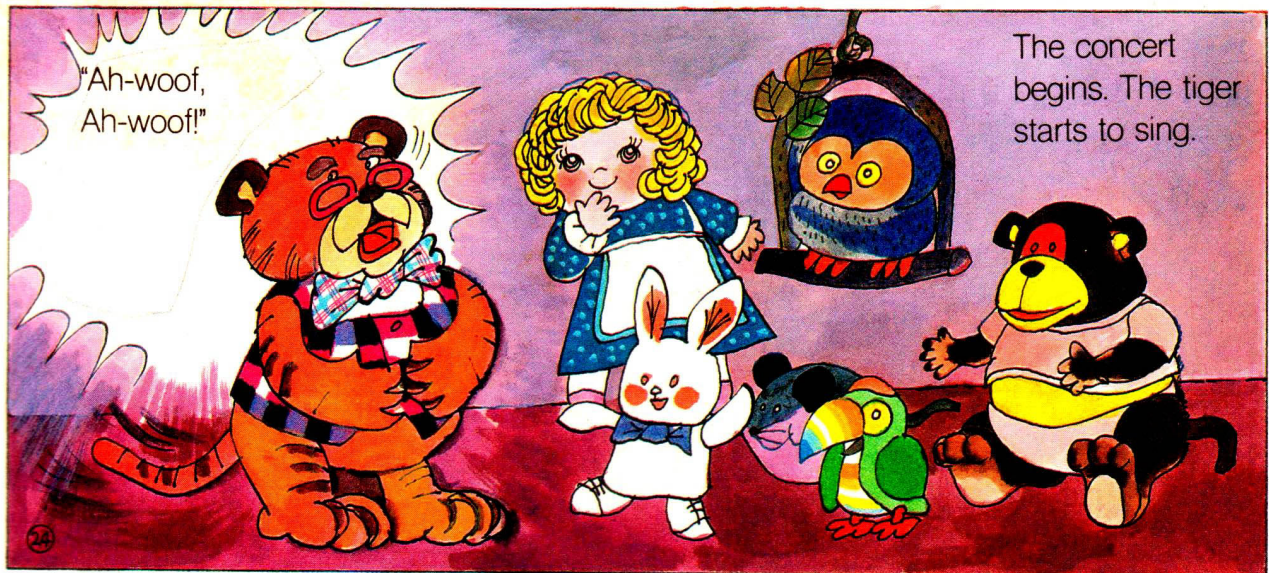


Leilei's whole family gathers round
Qiao Yi to listen to her songs.



Qiao Yi sings one
after another.





She looks at her friends triumphantly.



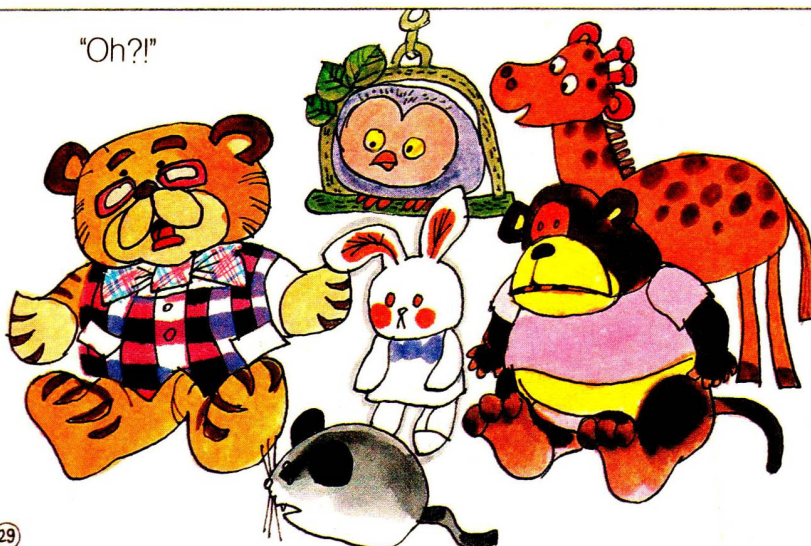
(27)



All of a sudden she bursts out crying.

(28)

"Oh?!"



(29)

Aha, the record was put in wrong.

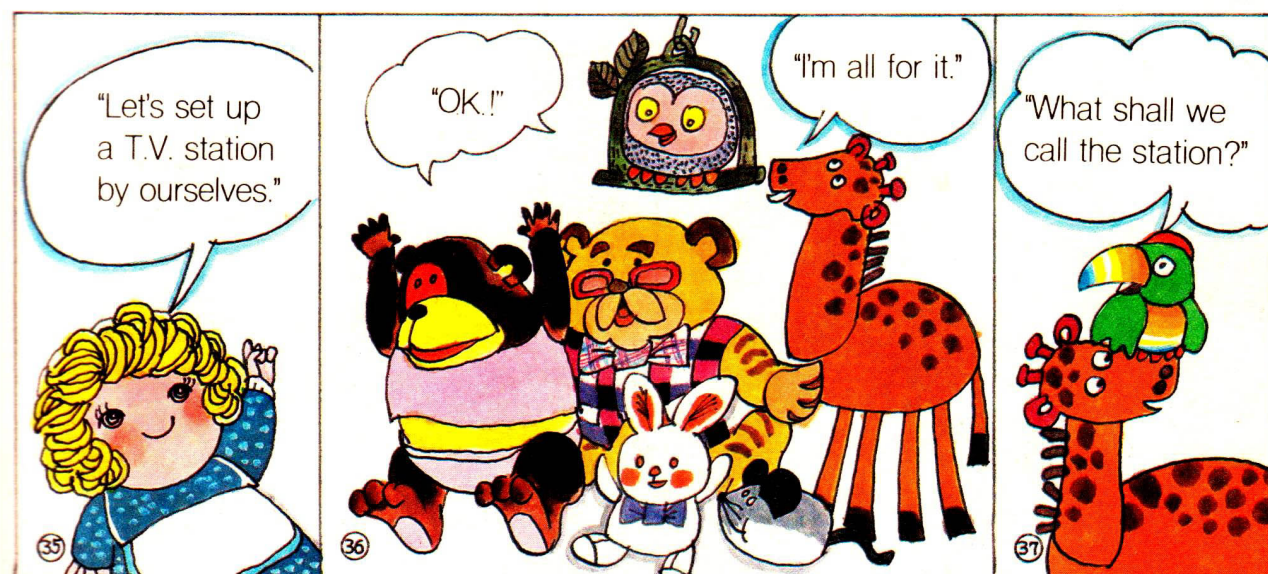
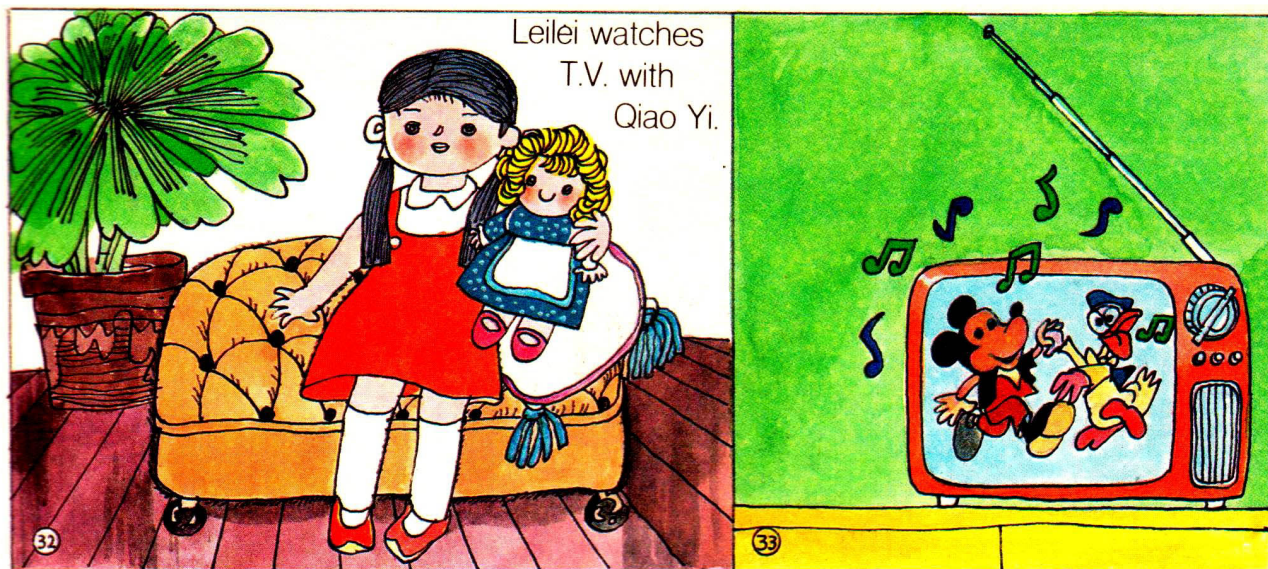


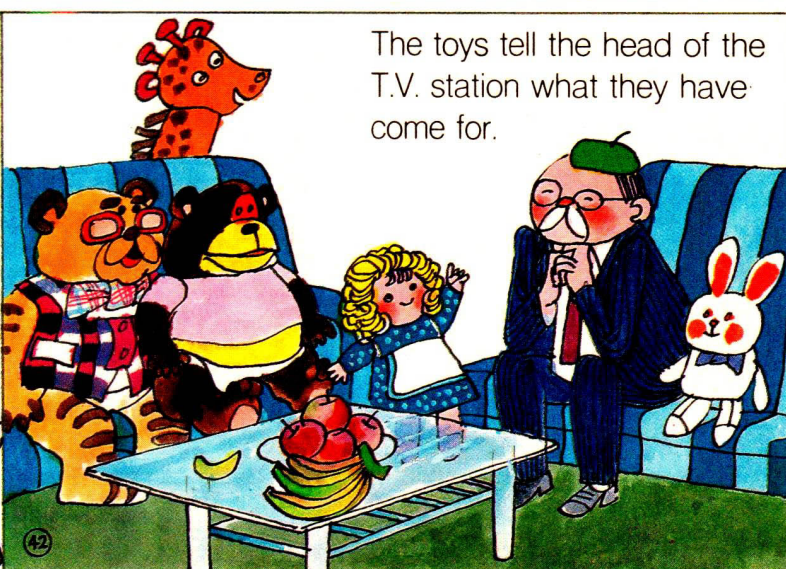
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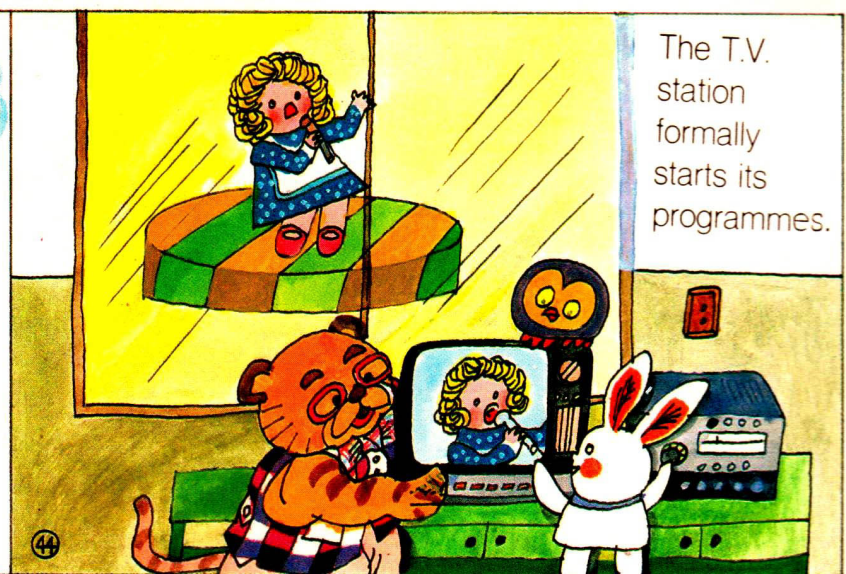
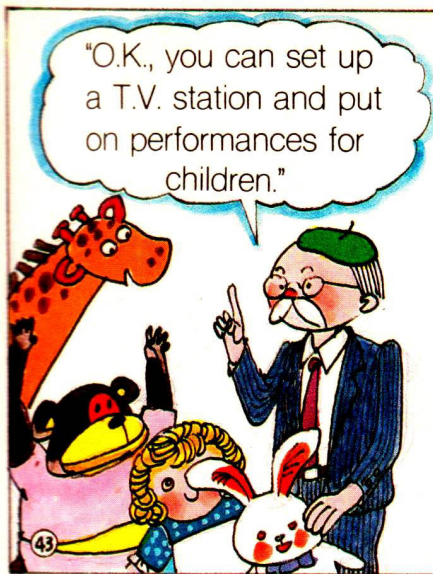


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This time Qiao Yi sings perfectly.



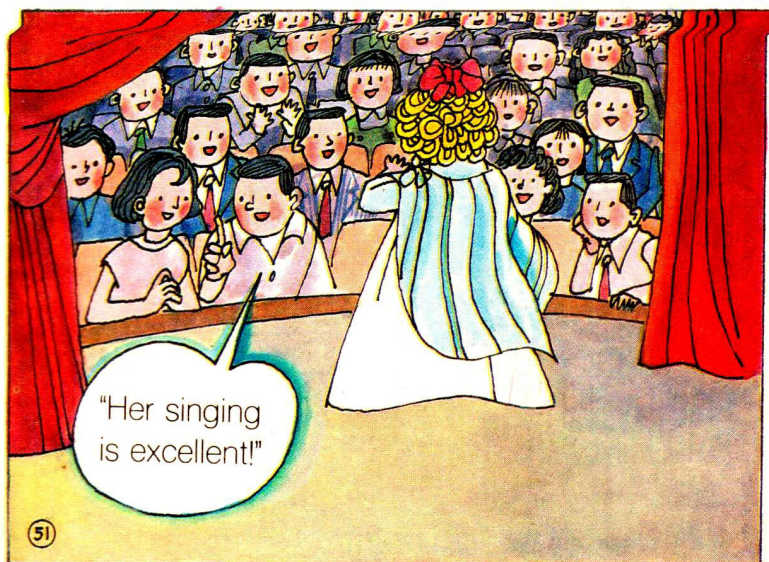
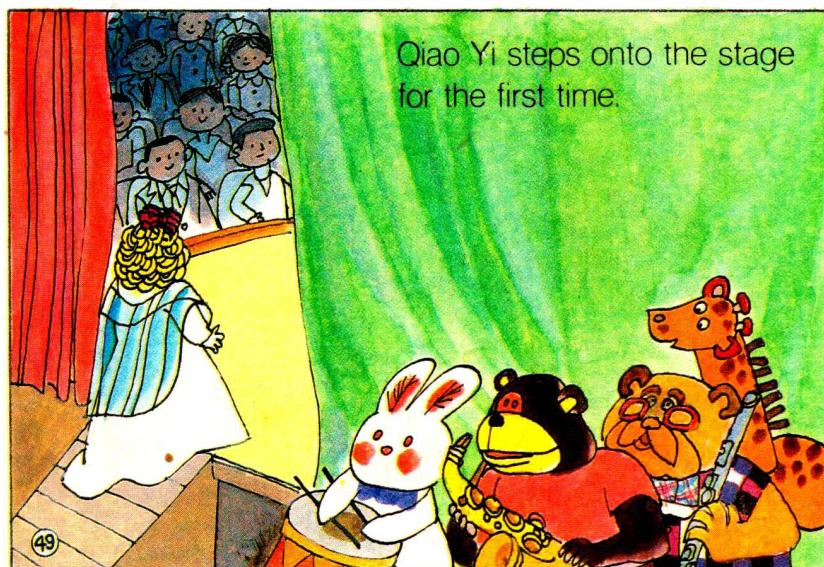




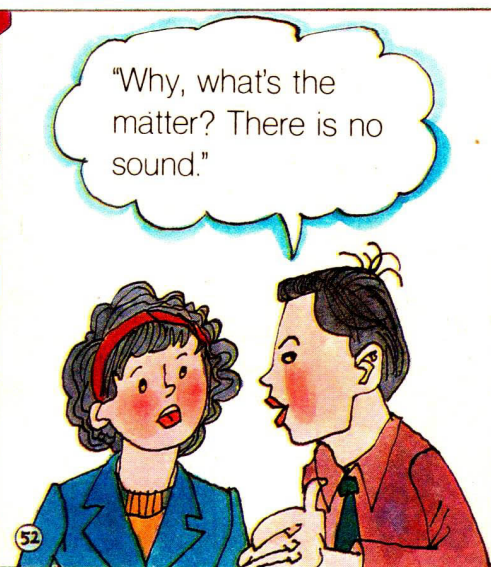
The toys make preparations for the show.

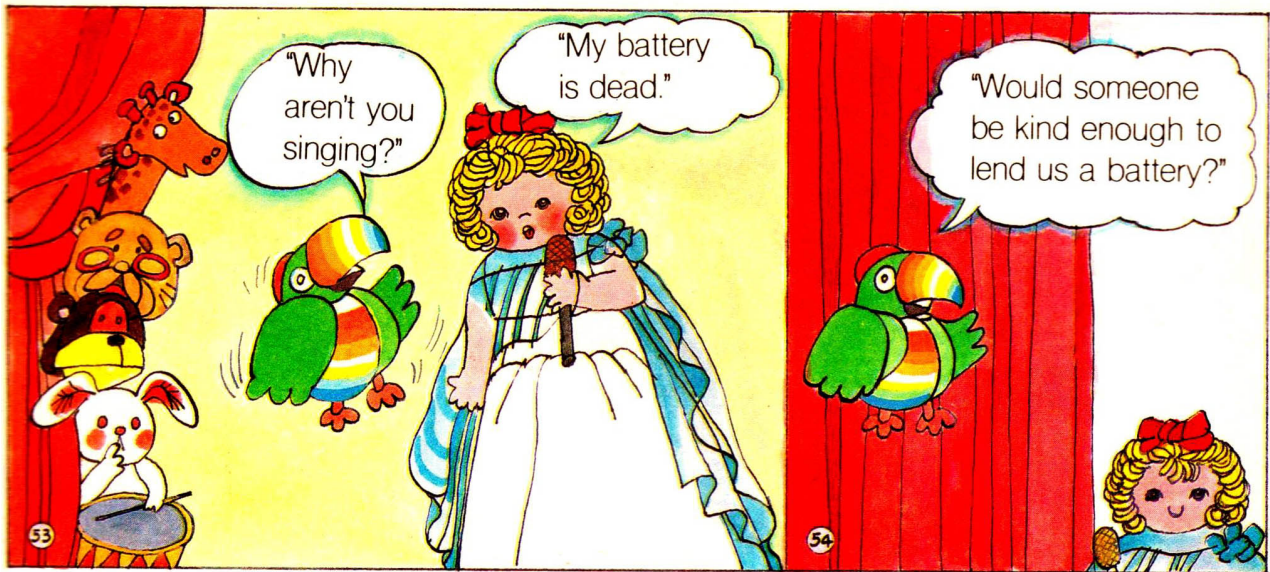


Qiao Yi steps onto the stage for the first time.



"Why, what's the matter? There is no sound."



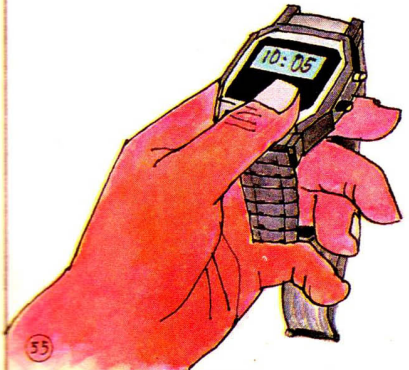


"Why aren't you singing?"

"My battery is dead."

"Would someone be kind enough to lend us a battery?"

Someone from the audience brings up an electronic watch. It has a battery.

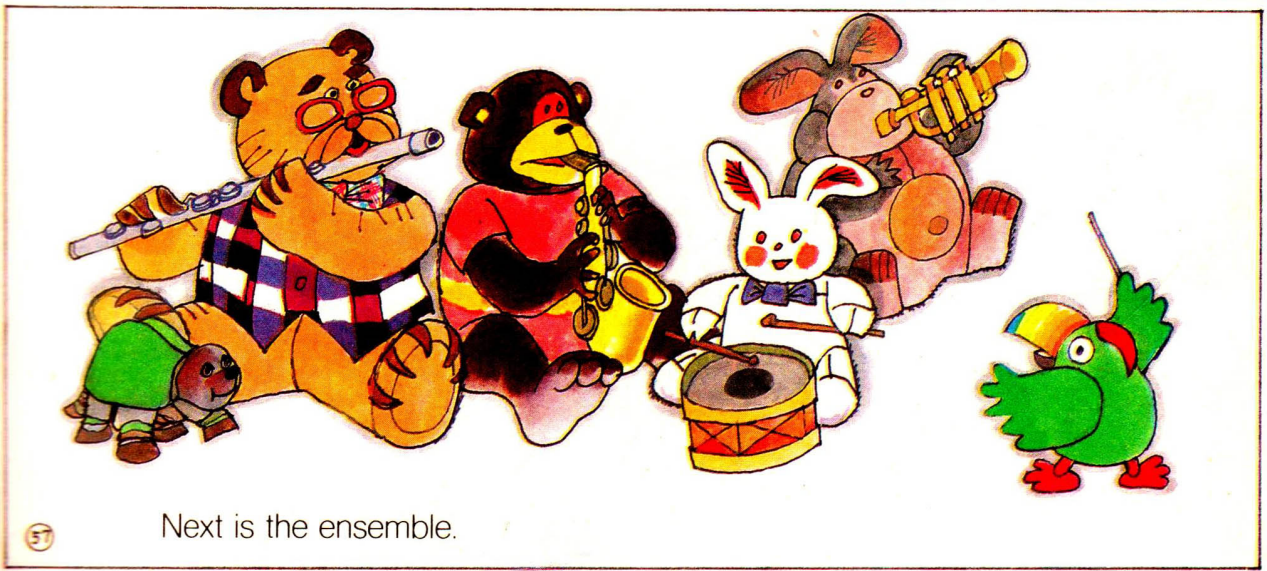


"Very good!"

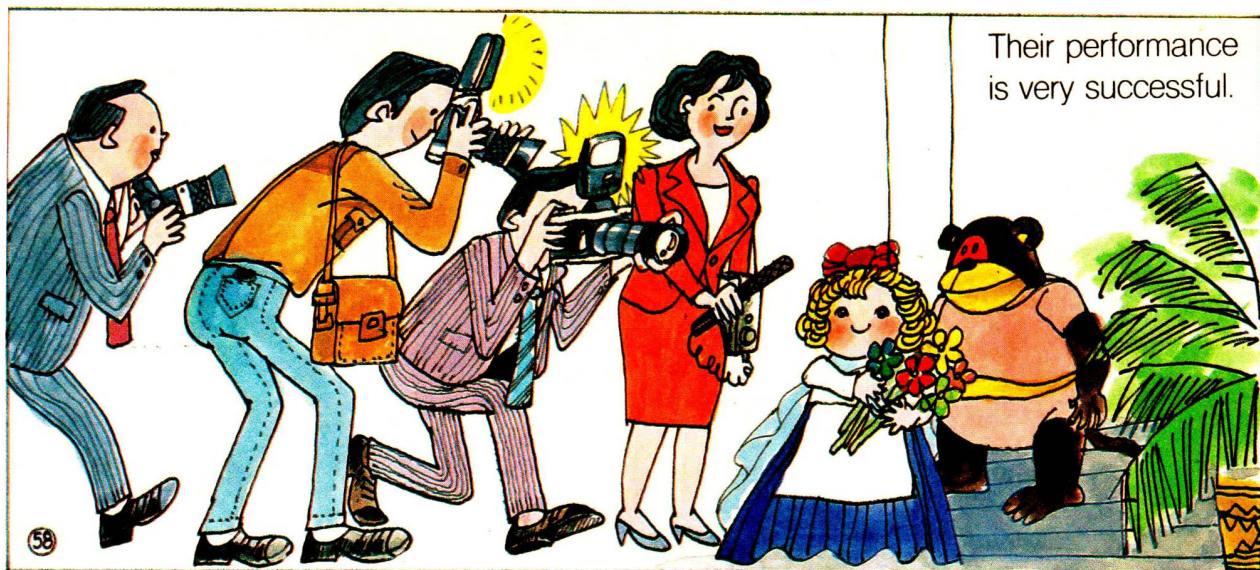
"Great!"

"Excellent!"

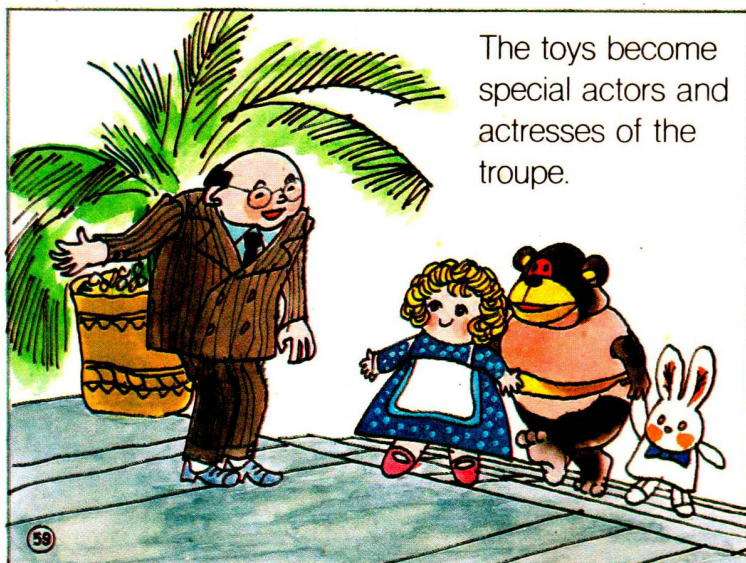
Qiao Yi starts again.



Next is the ensemble.



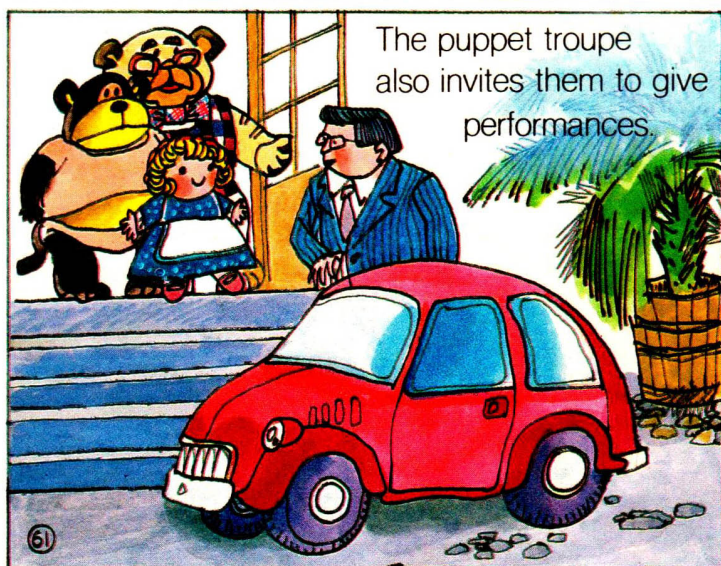
Their performance
is very successful.



The toys become
special actors and
actresses of the
troupe.



The T.V. station
wants to video-
tape the toys.



The puppet troupe
also invites them to give
performances.



Many children write
letters to Qiao Yi.

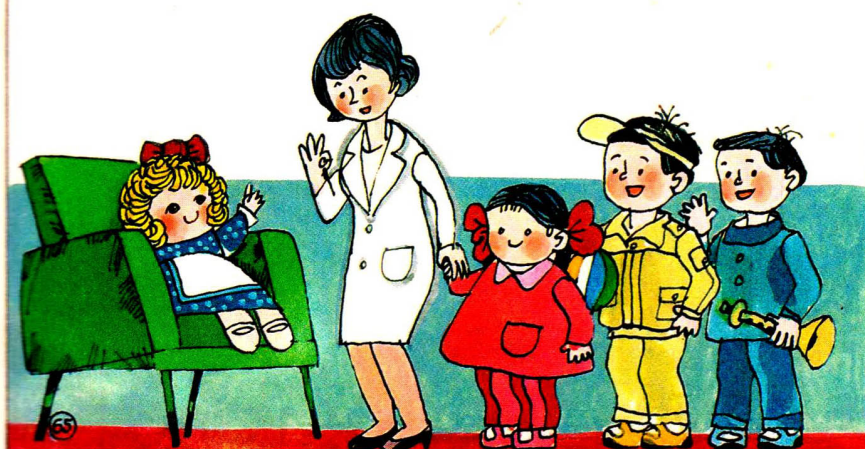


Endless telephone calls and
letters.



"Someone wants
to see you."

The children from the kindergarten have come
to see Qiao Yi.



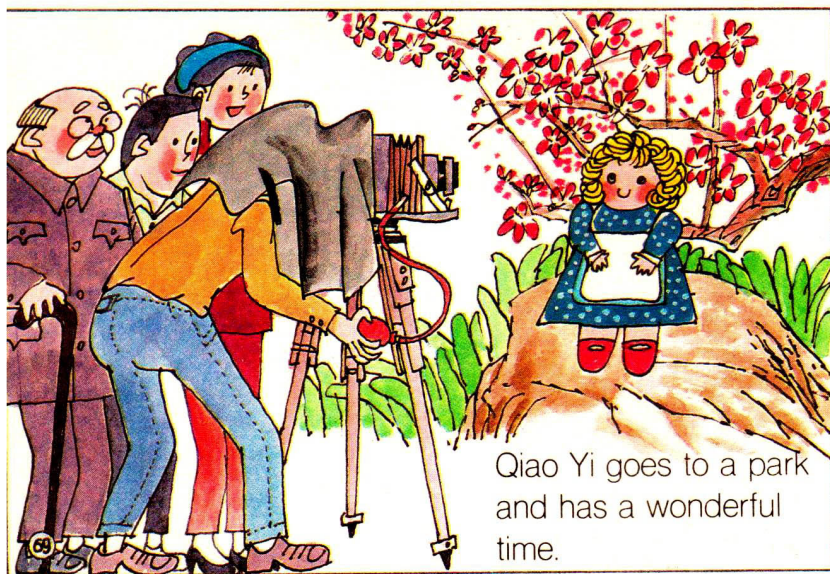
"I'm going to the
T.V. station for a
taping. Bye-bye!"



"I'm now a famous
actress. How can I play
with the children! How
annoying!"

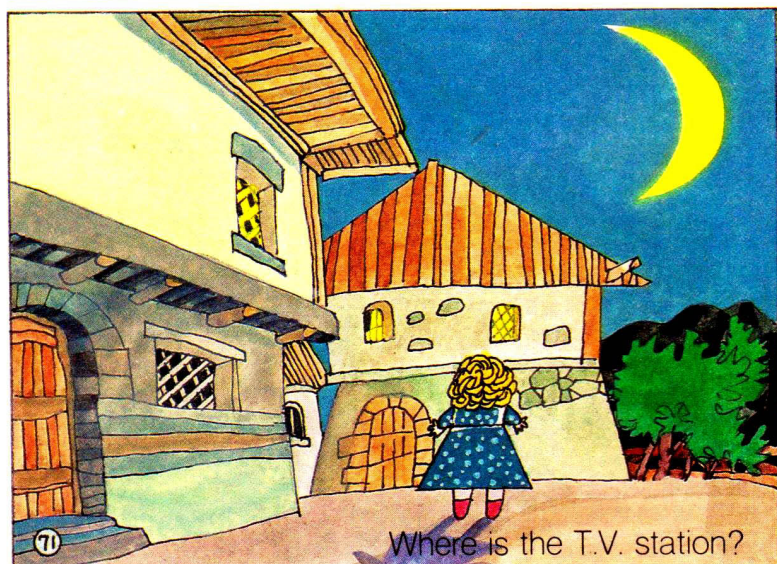
Curious people gather round Qiao Yi on the street.



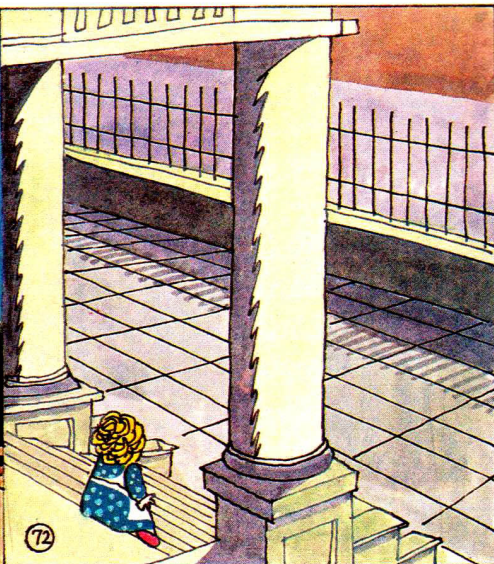


Qiao Yi goes to a park and has a wonderful time.

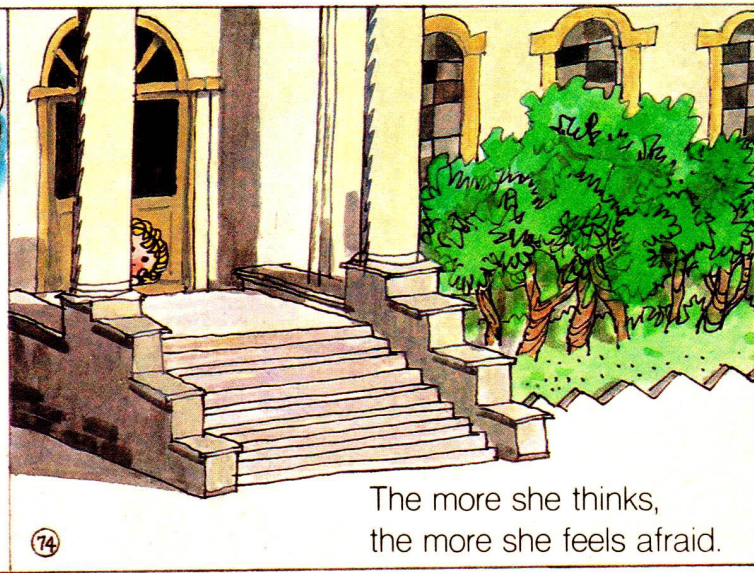
"Oh, it's time to go to the T.V. station."



Where is the T.V. station?

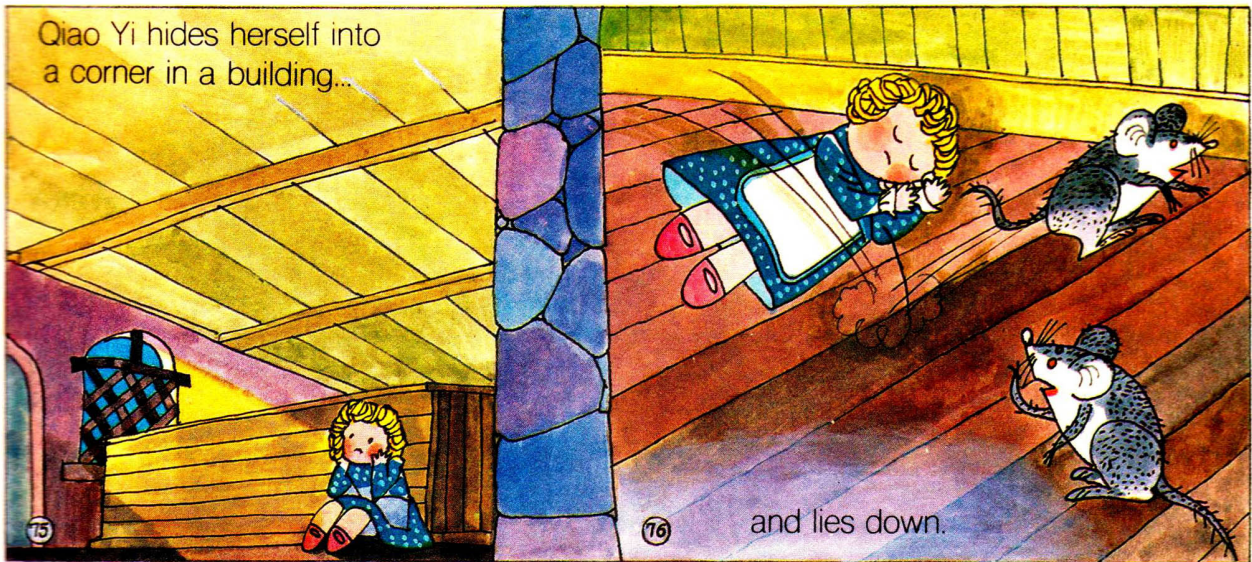


Qiao Yi regrets leaving Leilei.



The more she thinks, the more she feels afraid.

Qiao Yi hides herself into
a corner in a building...



and lies down.

"This is that singing
rag doll."



How terrible!
What can I
do?

"Let's tickle
her feet."

"No, nibble
her nose."



Qiao Yi pulls out a record which has a mewing sound.

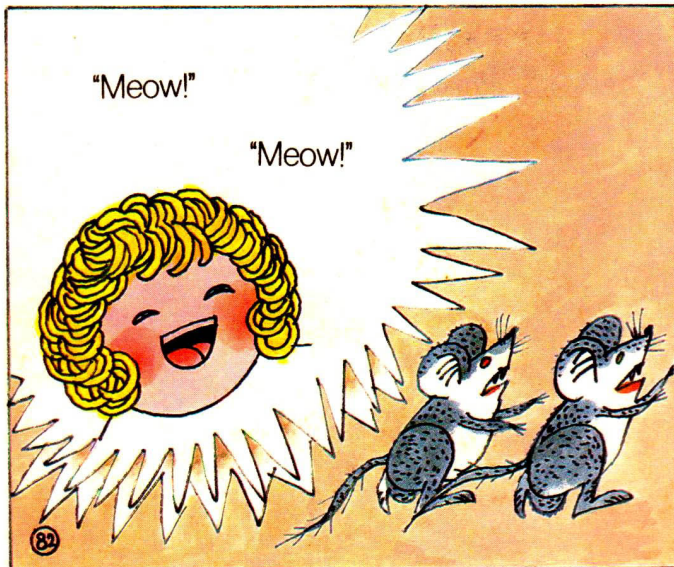


Then she puts it in.



"Meow!"

"Meow!"



"Where did the cat come from?"

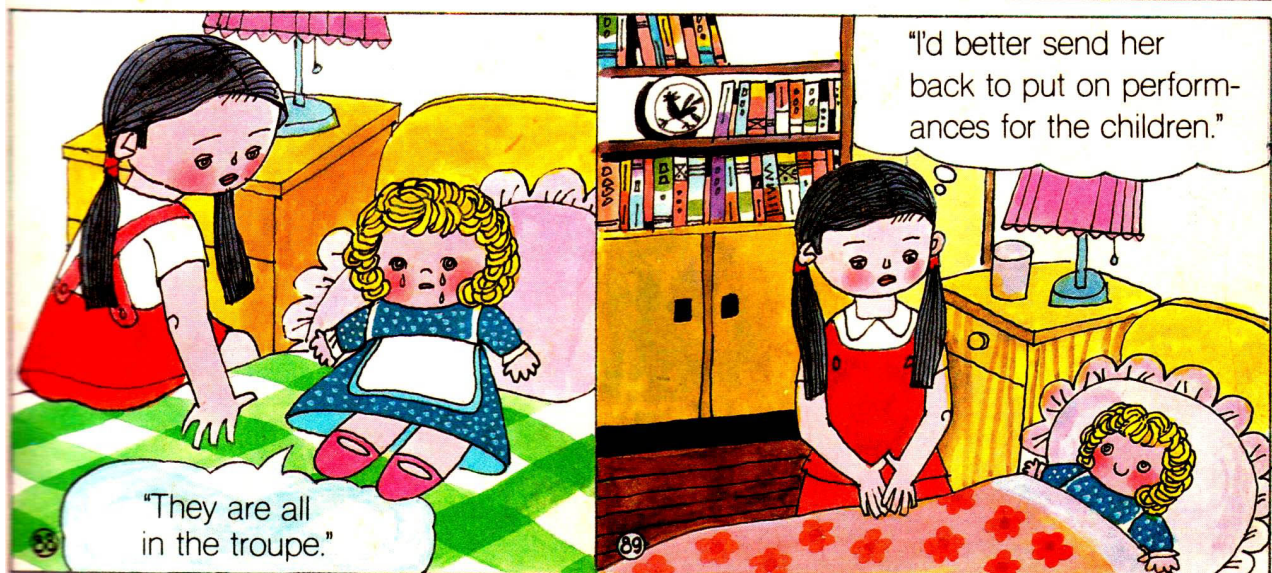
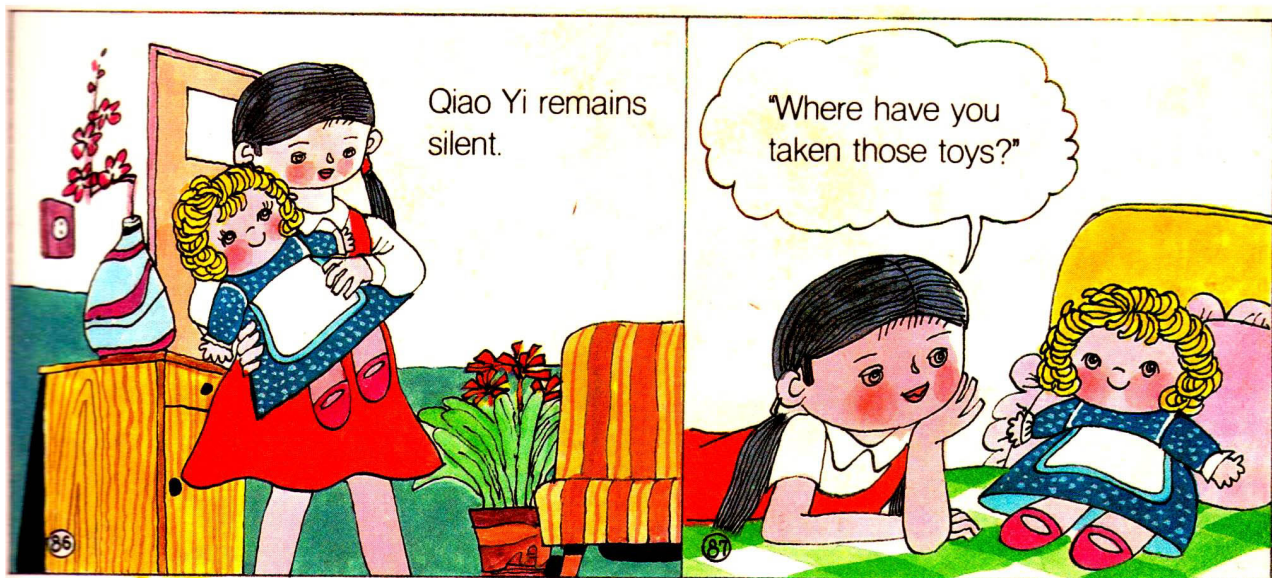


Leilei finds out it is Qiao Yi.

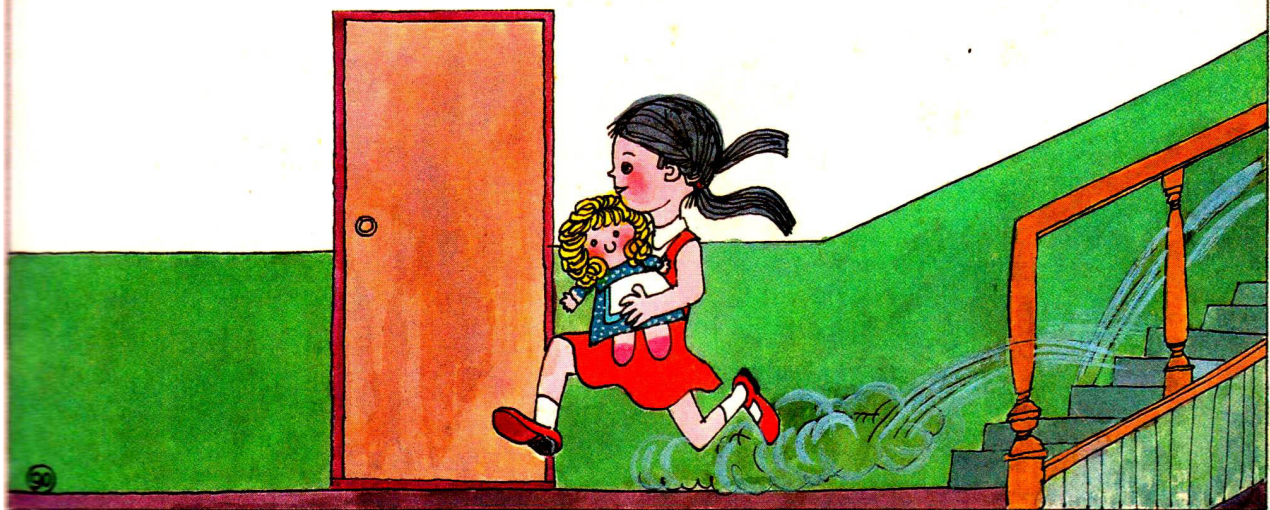


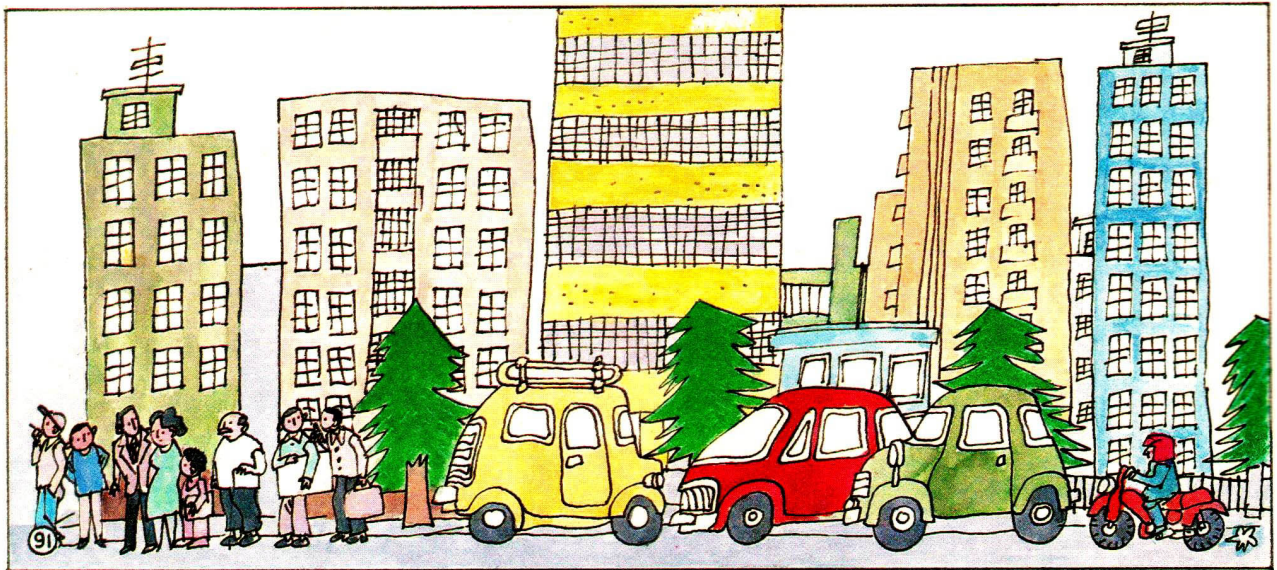
"Where have you been?"



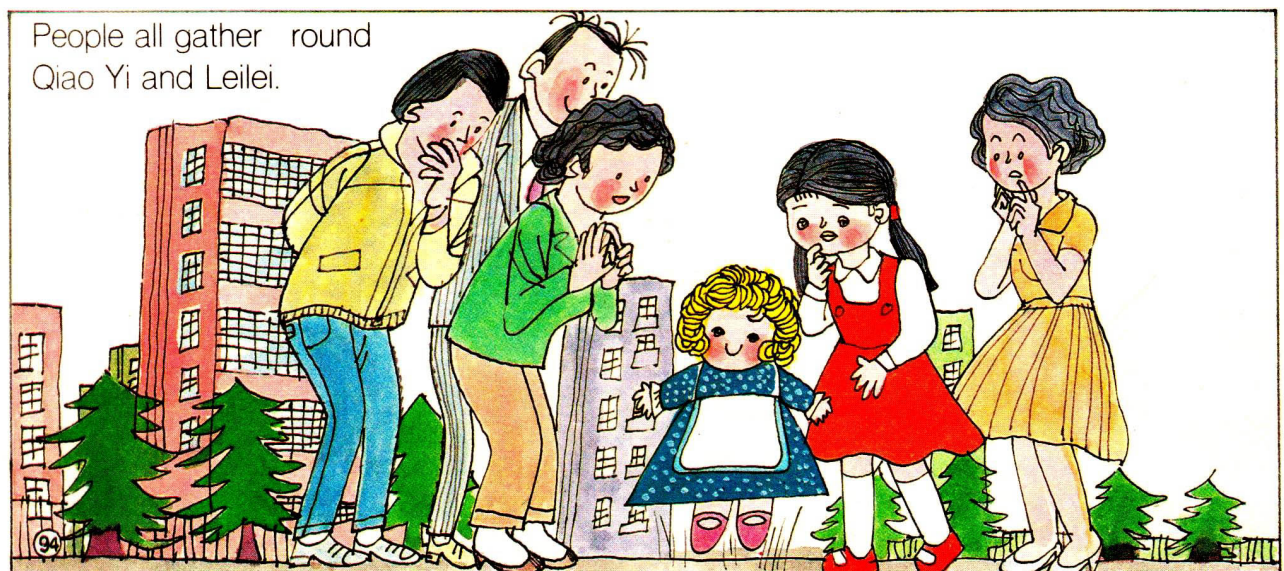


Right after daybreak, Leilei sends Qiao Yi back to the troupe.



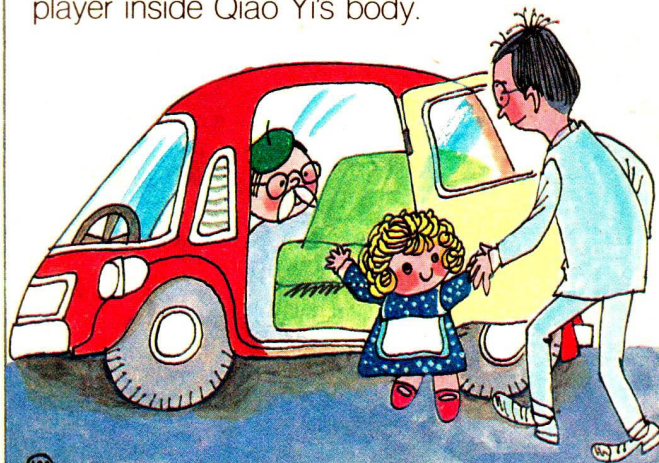


People all gather round
Qiao Yi and Leilei.



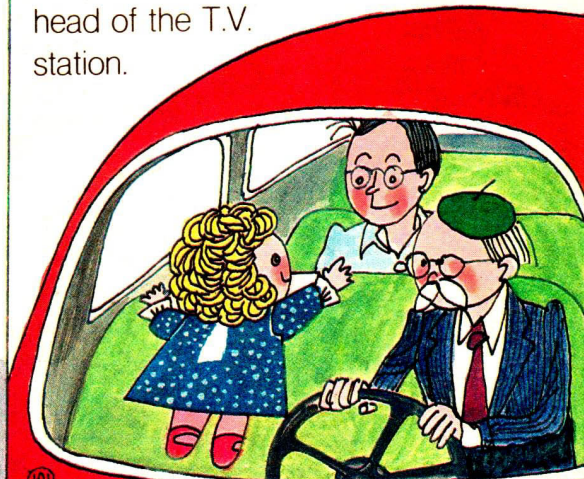


He is the uncle who put the mini record player inside Qiao Yi's body.



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Qiao Yi introduces him to the head of the T.V. station.



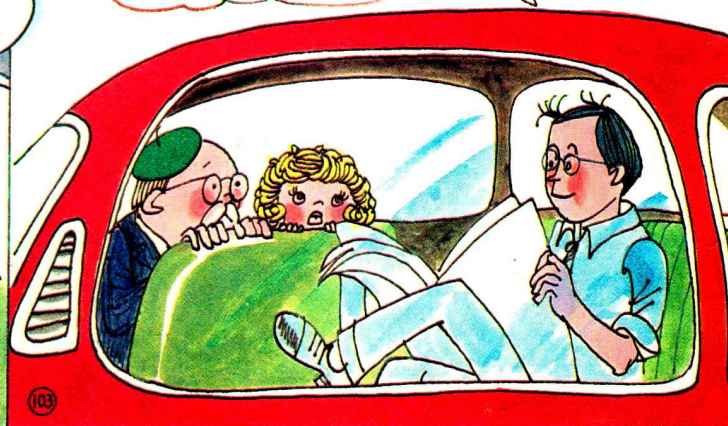
(101)

"I've come to dismantle the record player in Qiao Yi."

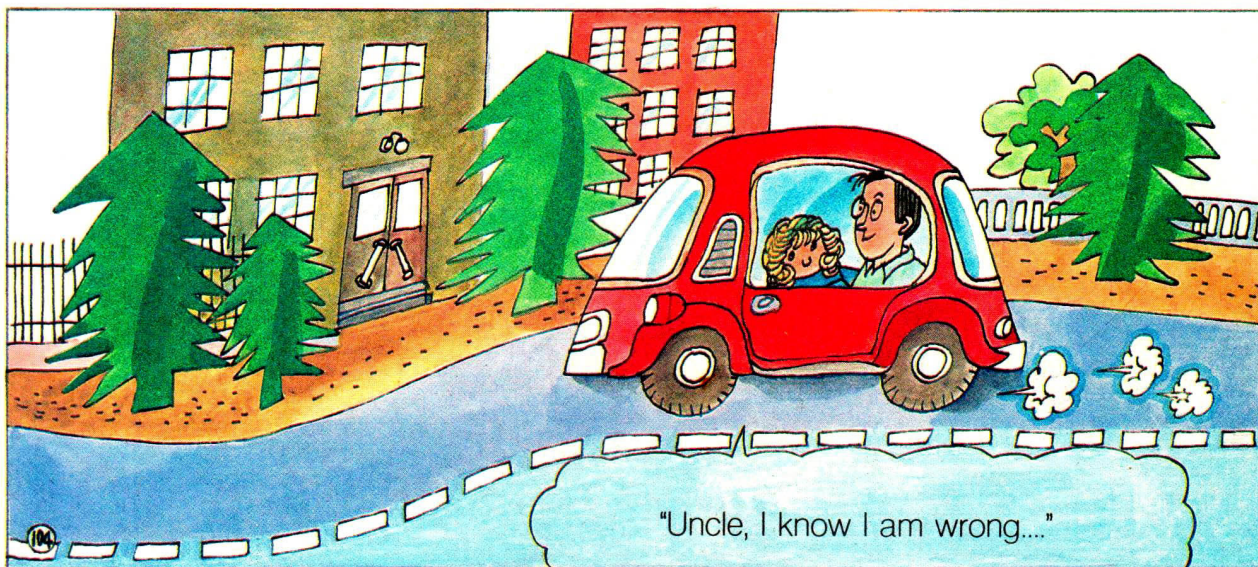


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"She becomes arrogant and looks down upon her friends."

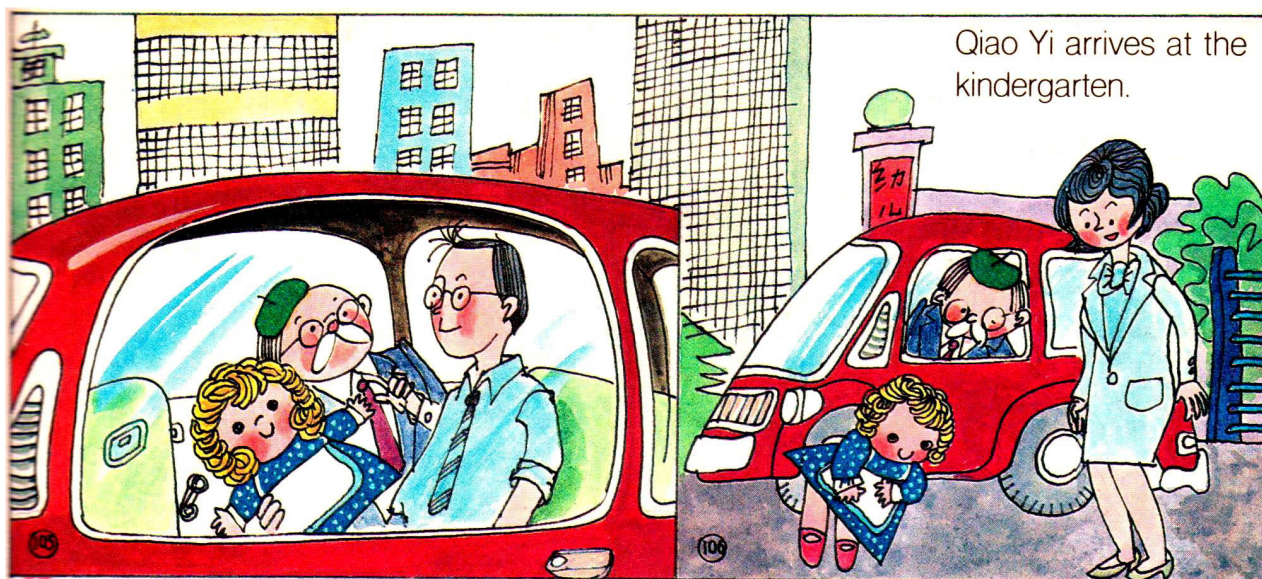


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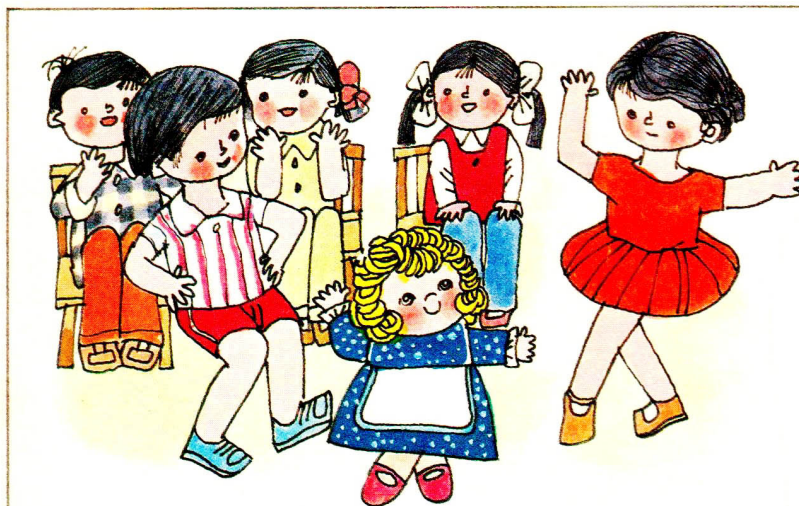


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"Uncle, I know I am wrong...."



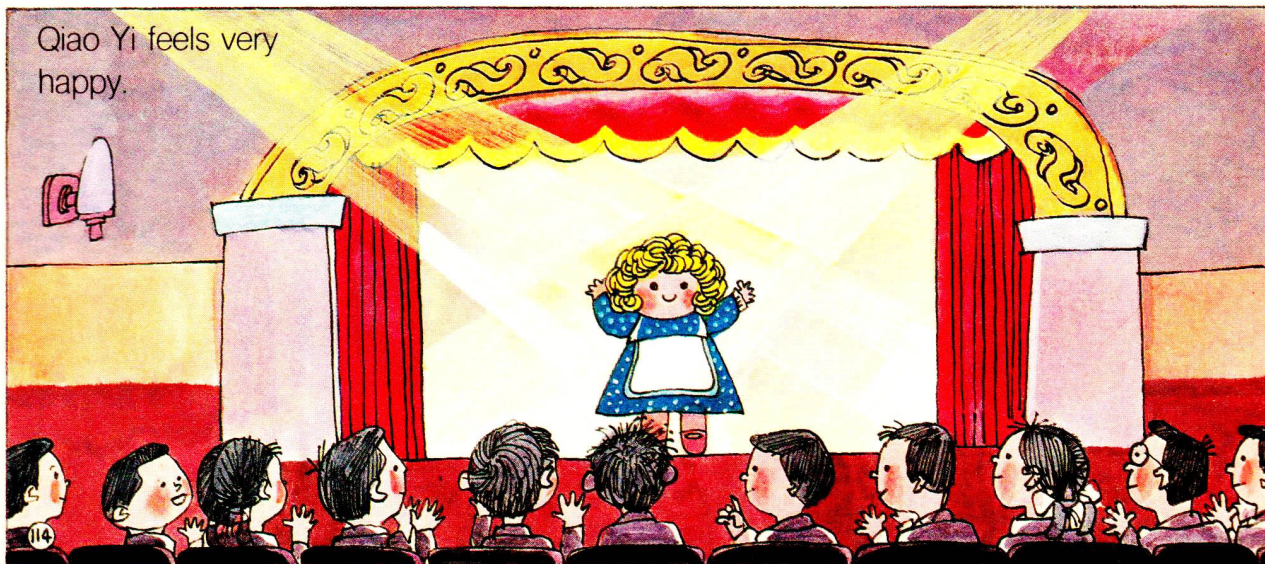
Qiao Yi sings one song
after another.



After singing, she dances with the children.



Qiao Yi feels very
happy.





会唱歌的布娃娃

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尚士水 绘

*

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